This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended): A method for the production of plastic skins by powder sintering, comprising:

applying a powder to a forming tool, and

sintering said powder to form a plastic skin in a first pulverization step,

wherein

a partial area of said forming tool is made inaccessible to the powder by means of a sealing device,

said forming tool has a separating web along an edge of said partial area, and

said sealing device is a mask having an ~~having an~~ inflatable sealing edge, said mask abutting with said sealing edge against said separating web during [[a]] said first pulverization step and being secured solely to said forming tool.

2. (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 1, wherein said first pulverization step is followed by at least one additional pulverization step, and said mask is removed for said additional pulverization step.

3. (Previously Presented): A method according to Claim 1, wherein said separating web is undercut and thus forms a groove which is open towards the partial area and in which the sealing edge comes to rest during the first pulverization step.

4. (Previously Presented): A method according to Claim 1, wherein at least a surface of said forming tool which receives the plastic skin being produced is made of nickel.

5. (Currently Amended): A method according to Claim 1, wherein said sealing edge of the mask is made of silicone ~~silicon~~ or a duroplastic elastomer.

6. (Currently Amended): A method according to Claim 1, wherein said plastic skin is provided with areas of differing graining due to the different graining of a surface of the forming tool receiving the plastic skin being produced, inside and outside the partial area.

7. (Previously Presented): A method according to Claim 1, wherein, due to a three-dimensional contour of a surface of the forming tool receiving the plastic skin during the powder sintering, said plastic skin obtains a correspondingly three-dimensional contour, and a separating line having a correspondingly three-dimensional course is produced on the plastic skin between surface areas of differing color and/or graining.

8. (Currently Amended): A sintering tool for producing plastic skins by powder sintering, comprising:

a forming tool with a surface for receiving a plastic skin, and

a sealing device for separating a partial area of said surface,

the forming tool having a separating web on said surface along an edge of said partial area, and

the sealing device is a mask having an [[a]] inflatable sealing edge, which is to be secured to said surface in such a way that the partial area is covered by the mask and the sealing edge abuts against the separating web.

9. (Previously Presented): A sintering tool according to claim 8, wherein, when the mask is secured to the surface, the mask is solely secured to the forming tool.

10. (Previously Presented): A sintering tool according to Claim 8, wherein said separating web is undercut and forms a groove which is open towards the partial area and in which the mask, when secured, abuts with the sealing edge against the separating web.

11. (Previously Presented): A sintering tool according to Claim 8, wherein said

forming tool has a shell with a wall thickness of between 2 mm and 6 mm for receiving the plastic skin being produced.

12. (Previously Presented): A sintering tool according to Claim 8, wherein said forming tool is double-walled for guiding a liquid heating medium and/or coolant in a cavity between two walls.

13. (Previously Presented): A sintering tool according to Claim 8, wherein said tool has at least one powder box on which the forming tool may be placed, the sintering tool being mounted so as to be rotatable about a horizontal axis.

14. (Currently Amended): A sintering tool according to Claim 8, wherein ~~herein~~ at least said [[a]] surface of said forming tool is made of nickel.

15. (Currently Amended): A sintering tool according to Claim 8, wherein said sealing edge of the mask is made of silicone ~~silicon~~ or a duroplastic elastomer.

16. (Previously Presented): A sintering tool according to Claim 8, wherein said mask has a thickness of between 1 mm and 6 mm, and/or the sealing edge, when inflated, has a thickness of between 5 mm and 20 mm.

17. (Previously Presented): A sintering tool according to Claim 8, wherein said separating web has a height of between 2 mm and 7 mm, and/or a width of between 1 mm and 6 mm.

18. (Previously Presented): A sintering tool according to Claim 10, wherein said groove has a depth of between 0.2 mm and 2 mm.

19. (Previously Presented): A sintering tool according to Claim 8, wherein said

surface has differing graining inside and outside the partial area.

20. (Previously Presented): A sintering tool according to Claim 8, wherein said surface has a three-dimensional contour.

21. (Previously Presented): A sintering tool according to Claim 8, wherein said separating web has a three-dimensional course.

22. (Cancelled):

23. (Cancelled):

24. (Cancelled):

25. (New): A method according to claim 2, wherein said at least one additional pulverization step produces a plastics material layer which is of a different color from the first plastics material layer produced in said first pulverization step.

26. (New): A sintering tool according to Claim 11, wherein said forming tool has a shell with a wall thickness of between 2 mm and 4 mm, for receiving the plastic skin being produced.

27. (New): A sintering tool according to Claim 16, wherein said mask has a thickness of between 2 mm and 4 mm and/or the sealing edge, when inflated, has a thickness of between 10 mm and 15 mm.

28. (New): A sintering tool according to Claim 17, wherein said separating web has a height of between 2 3 mm and 5 mm and/or a width of between 2 mm and 4 mm.

29. (New): A sintering tool according to Claim 18, wherein said groove has a depth of between 0.3 mm and 1 mm.